



*[Please stand if you are able]*

### Welcome and Introduction

The Lord be with you.

***And also with you.***

### Opening Responses for the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

Creator God, walking in the garden,  
***breathe life into us.***

Tempted God, praying in the desert,  
***breathe life into us.***

Holy God, travelling towards the city,  
***breathe life into us.***

### Hymn No. 32 (O Lord my God)

O Lord my God! When I in awesome  
wonder  
consider all the works thy hand hath  
made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty  
thunder,  
thy pow'r throughout the universe  
displayed:

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to  
thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou  
art!*

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to  
thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou  
art!*

When through the woods and forest  
glades I wander,  
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the  
trees;  
when I look down from lofty mountain  
grandeur,  
and hear the brook, and feel the  
gentle breeze:

And when I think that God, his Son  
not sparing,  
sent him to die - I scarce can take it  
in,  
that on the cross, my burden gladly  
bearing,  
he bled and died to take away my sin:

When Christ shall come with shout of  
acclamation  
and take me home - what joy shall fill  
my heart!

Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
and there proclaim, my God, how great  
thou art!

### The Group Neckerchief/Scarf

The Group Neckerchief/Scarf of 25<sup>th</sup>  
Dublin (Mount Merrion) is presented and  
placed on the Holy Communion Table  
during the singing of the first verse of the  
hymn, along with some old Scout shirts.

## Symbols of this year's activities

Likewise, symbols of the activities that our Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Venture Scouts and Rover Scouts have been focusing on this year are presented and placed on the Holy Communion Table.



*[Please kneel or sit]*

### The Penitence

*(based on the Cub Law and the Scout Law)*

Lord, as we gather to spend time with you, we recognise that we have not always done our best or even tried to do our best.

**Sorry, Lord.**

We have not always done our duty to you, or tried to grow in our faith.

**Sorry, Lord.**

We have not always done our duty to our community, by not caring for the people or the environment.

**Sorry, Lord.**

We have said things that have hurt others,

sometimes without even realising it. Help us to think before we speak.

**Sorry, Lord.**

We have rushed into doing things without always thinking through the consequences of our actions.

**Sorry, Lord.**

We have not thought about others and have left them out, or not made an effort to be friendly.

**Sorry, Lord.**

We have not tried to help other people.

**Sorry, Lord.**

### The Absolution

God the Father understands that we are human and we get things wrong.

On all whose lives are open to change, from getting it wrong to getting it right,

God pronounces his pardon and gives his peace.

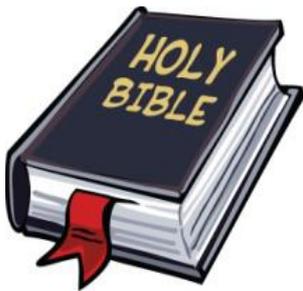
Thanks be to God. **Amen.**

*[Please stand if you are able]*

### The Collect of the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent *(contemporary version)*

O Christ, who entered into the lonely desert, and who, facing hunger, danger and temptation, did not turn aside

but affirmed the way of self-giving love,  
strengthen us to resist the false attraction of easy answers,  
magic fixes,  
abuses of power,  
and the delusion that there is any way apart from justice  
in which God's justice can be done.  
**Amen.**



*[Please sit]*

### **The Reading - Matthew 4: 1-11**

*The reading is from the gospel according to Matthew, chapter 4, beginning at verse 1.*

4 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. <sup>3</sup>The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' <sup>4</sup>But he answered, 'It is written,  
"One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." '

5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup>saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

"He will command his angels concerning you",

and "On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone." '

<sup>7</sup>Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." '

8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; <sup>9</sup>and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

"Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him." '

<sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*[Please stand if you are able]*

### **Hymn No. 596 (Seek ye first)**

Seek ye first the kingdom of God,  
and his righteousness,  
and all these things shall be added unto you;  
allelu, alleluia!

Ask, and it shall be given unto you;  
seek, and ye shall find;  
knock and the door shall be opened unto you;  
allelu, alleluia!

We shall not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that  
that proceeds from the mouth of the  
Lord;  
allelu, alleluia!

*[Please sit]*

## **What We Have Done!**

Members of the Beavers, Cubs,  
Scouts, Venture Scouts and Rover  
Scouts will tell us about some of  
the things that they have been  
doing in the last year and what  
they are planning for this year.

*[Please stand if you are able]*

### **Hymn No. 640 (Purify my heart)**

Purify my heart, let me be as gold and  
precious silver;  
purify my heart, let me be as gold,  
pure gold.

*Refiner's fire, my heart's one desire  
is to be holy, set apart for you, Lord;  
I chose to be holy, set apart for you,  
my master, ready to do your will.*

Purify my heart, cleanse me from  
within and make me holy;  
purify my heart, cleanse me from my  
sin, deep within.

*[Please remain standing if you are able]*

### **Affirmation of Faith**

Let us declare our faith in God.

***We believe in a loving God,  
whose spirit sustains our lives  
and the work of our hands in the  
world.***

***We believe in Jesus Christ,  
God's Son amongst us,  
whose spirit encourages our lives  
and shows us the meaning of love.***

***We believe in the Holy Spirit of  
life,  
who makes us one with God,  
who renews our strength,  
and helps us believe.  
The Spirit is life and love.***

*[The congregation may be seated and the Beavers,  
Cubs, Scouts, Ventures and Rovers remain standing  
if you are able]*

## **The Scout Law as per the Constitution of Scouting Ireland**

- a) A Scout is to be trusted.
- b) A Scout is loyal.
- c) A Scout is helpful and considerate to all.
- d) A Scout has courage in all difficulties.
- e) A Scout makes good use of time and is careful of possessions and property.
- f) A Scout has respect for self and others.
- g) A Scout respects nature and the environment.

**Youth Variations on the Scout Law for each Section, building up as the members grow in maturity and understanding.**



### The Beaver Scout Law

Beaver Scouts are:  
friendly and kind.

### The Beaver Scouts renew their promise:

***I promise to do my best;  
to be a good Beaver Scout,  
to love the world and  
to love one another.***

### The Cub Scout Law

Cub Scouts are:  
friendly,  
kind,  
honest,  
and can be trusted.

### The Cub Scouts renew their promise:

***I promise that I will do my best,  
to do my duty to God,  
to serve my community,  
to help other people,  
and to live by the Cub Scout Law.***

### The Scout Law

Scouts are:  
friendly,  
kind,  
honest,  
can be trusted,  
are respectful,  
and are brave.

### The Scouts and Leaders renew their promise:

***On my honour, I promise that I will  
do my best,  
to do my duty to God,  
to serve my community,  
to help other people,  
and to live by the Scout Law.***

### The Venture Scout Law

Venture Scouts are:  
friendly,  
kind,  
honest,  
can be trusted,  
are respectful,  
brave,  
and loyal.

### The Venture Scouts renew their promise:

***On my honour, I promise that I will  
do my best,  
to do my duty to God,  
to serve my community,  
to help other people,***

**and to live by the Venture Scout Law.**

The Rover Scout Law

Rover Scouts are:

friendly,  
kind,  
honest,  
can be trusted,  
are respectful,  
brave,  
loyal,  
and seek justice for all.

The Rover Scouts renew their promise:

***On my honour, I promise that I will do my best,  
to do my duty to God,  
to serve my community,  
to help other people,  
and to live by the Rover Scout Law.***

*[Please stand if you are able]*

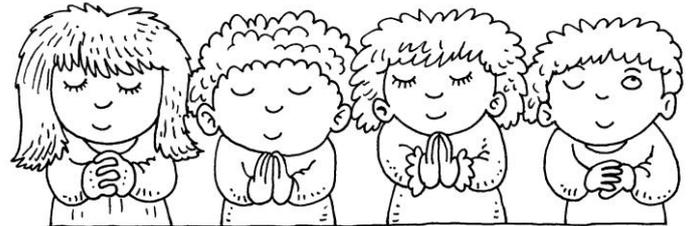
Hymn No. 58 (Bunessan)

Morning has broken like the first morning;  
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,

like the first dew-fall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness where his feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning  
born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation, praise every morning,  
God's re-creation of the new day!



*[Please kneel or sit]*

The Prayers

Let us pray.

The Members of the Group join in the prayers for their particular section.

A Prayer for Beavers

***Dear Lord, help me be a good Beaver,  
always busy and bright.  
Be with those who are dear to me,  
and help me do things right. Amen.***

A Prayer for Cub Scouts

***Lord,  
we thank you for the fun and friends we have in Cubs.***

*Help us to keep our Promise,  
to do our best and to do a good  
turn every day. Amen.*

A Prayer for Scouts

*Lord,  
thank you for bringing us together  
in Scouting.  
Be with our Troop and all its  
members.  
Keep us loyal to our Promise,  
to each other and to ourselves;  
and in everything we do,  
help us to put other people first.  
Amen.*

A Prayer for Venture Scouts

*Lord, we thank you for the  
opportunities we have in Venture  
Scouts;  
opportunities to develop our skills  
and talents,  
to discover our place in the world  
and how we can make it a better  
place, to make friends.  
May our Unit be a place of growth  
and trust  
guided by the Law and the Promise.  
Amen.*

A Prayer for Rover Scouts

*Lord, thank you for challenges in  
Rover Scouts through which we  
explore, discover, learn and grow.  
Help us to be responsible and  
accountable to ourselves and to the  
members of our Crew.  
Help us to discern how we can be*

*channels for justice, compassion and  
truth.*

*May the Law and Promise fashion  
our lives, so that we live with  
integrity and honesty. Amen.*

A Prayer for Leaders

*Lord, we ask you to be with us in  
our responsibilities as Leaders in  
Scouting.  
Let the Scout Promise and Law be  
our guide.  
Inspire us so that our decisions,  
actions and leadership may be wise  
and true to the spirit of Scouting.  
Amen.*

Prayers for the Needs of People  
and the World at this time.

*Lord, in your mercy,  
hear our prayer.*

The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass  
against us.  
And lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory for ever  
and ever. Amen.*

*[The Collection will be received during this hymn]*

*[Please stand if you are able]*

**Hymn No. 152 Thanks and Praise**  
**(My Desire)**

*This little light of mine,  
I'm gonna let it shine;  
this little light of mine,  
I'm gonna let it shine;  
this little light of mine,  
I'm gonna let it shine;  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

The light that shines is the light of  
love,  
lights the darkness from above,  
it shines on me and it shines on you,  
and shows what the power of love can  
do.

I'm gonna shine my light both far and  
near,  
I'm gonna shine my light both bright  
and clear,  
where there's a dark corner in this  
land  
I'm gonna let my little light shine.

On Monday he gave me the gift of  
love,  
Tuesday peace came from above,  
on Wednesday he told me to have  
more faith,  
on Thursday he gave me a little more  
grace,  
Friday he told me just to watch and  
pray,  
Saturday he told me just what to say,

on Sunday he gave me the power  
divine  
to let my little light shine.

**The Blessing**

*[Please stand if you are able]*

**Daylight Taps**

Thanks and praise,  
for our days,  
'neath the sun,  
'neath the stars,  
'neath the sky.  
As we go,  
this we know,  
God is nigh.

*In the interests of trying to keep all who  
come to our churches safe, please take  
away this service sheet and any other items  
that you may have brought with you or used  
in church this morning. Thank you.*



**Tea/Coffee/Juice**

*You are warmly invited to  
tea/coffee/juice in the Monk Gibbon  
Hall after the 10.30 Service in St  
Thomas' Church.*

# FORTHCOMING SERVICES

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2026

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2026

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

**10.30 UNITED SERVICE – RITE OF CONFIRMATION ADMINISTERED BY THE ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN, IN ST PHILIP AND ST JAMES' CHURCH**

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2026

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2026

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

9.30 Morning Prayer in St Thomas' Church

11.00 Morning Prayer in St Philip and St James' Church

**18.30 Sausage Service in St Philip and St James' Church with presentation of Confirmation Certificates and gifts to the confirmands**



Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2026

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2026

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

9.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

11.00 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2026

*NB No Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church*

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2026

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

**10.30 United Daffodil Service in St Philip and St James' Church, followed by Daffodil Coffee Morning and Bring-and-Buy**

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2026

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Palm Sunday

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

9.30 Service for Palm Sunday in St Thomas' Church

11.00 Service for Palm Sunday in St Philip and St James' Church

**Holy Week**

*Monday – 19.30 in St Thomas' Church*

*Tuesday – 19.30 in St Philip and St James' Church*

*Wednesday - 10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church  
19.30 in St Thomas' Church*

*Maundy Thursday – 19.30 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church*

*Good Friday – 14.00 Prayer at the Cross in St Thomas' Church*

*19.00 - Ecumenical Prayer around the Cross – venue to be confirmed*

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2026 – Easter Day**

8.30 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

9.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

11.00 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

## CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

on Tuesdays 3.30pm—4.10pm  
in the Canon Osborne Barr Room of St  
Philip and St James' Parish Centre  
Contact Irene on 087-2755423  
[irene.reid1052@gmail.com](mailto:irene.reid1052@gmail.com)



### Confirmation Class

Wednesdays 19.30-20.30 hours  
25<sup>th</sup> February                      4<sup>th</sup> March

Confirmation Rehearsal on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup>  
February 2026  
19.30-20.30 hours  
St Philip and St James' Church

## Helpers Wanted with the Tea/Coffee/Juice

in St Thomas' Church  
and in St Philip and St James' Church on a  
Sunday morning.

Please chat to Patricia Bedlow in St  
Thomas' Church or June Burgess in St  
Philip and St James' Church.



### Healer Prayer Group

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2026  
19.30 hours via Zoom



Any child (who has been toilet-trained) is  
very welcome to join the Sunday Club.

St Thomas' Sunday Club will meet at 9.30 in

the Monk Gibbon Hall on the following  
Sundays:

29<sup>th</sup> March 2026  
12<sup>th</sup> April 2026                      17<sup>th</sup> May 2026

St Philip and St James' Sunday Club will  
meet at 11.00 in St Philip and St James'  
Parish Centre on the following Sundays:  
8<sup>th</sup> March 2026                      12<sup>th</sup> April 2026  
10<sup>th</sup> May 2026

*The children and their leaders will join the  
respective congregations later on, during  
the service.*



**Ad Hoc Choir Practice**  
in St Philip and St James' Church  
Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2026 – 19.30  
hours

Confirmation is on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup>  
March 2026 at 10.30 in St Philip and  
St James' Church

## MOUNT MERRION

### SELECT VESTRY

MONDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> MARCH 2026  
19.30 HOURS  
THE COMMITTEE ROOM

**BOOTERSTOWN AND**  
**CARYSFORT**  
**SELECT VESTRY**

**WEDNESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026**  
**19.30 HOURS**  
**ST PHILIP AND ST JAMES'**  
**CHURCH**

**REGISTER OF VESTRY**  
**MEMBERS**

The Register of Vestrypersons is, in many ways, the electoral roll of the Parish and will be updated at the meetings of the respective Select Vestry on the dates given above.

If you are not on the Register, you are not entitled to vote on parish matters and are not able to hold any office in the parish or serve on the Select Vestry. Please contact the Churchwardens to be placed on the Register of Vestrypersons.

It is very simple to do, the churchwardens have forms available, and all you have to do is fill in the short, simple form and give it to a churchwarden.

**CHURCH of IRELAND**  
**UNITED DIOCESES of DUBLIN**  
**and GLENDALOUGH**

Parish: **Mount Merrion**

**NOTICE of the REVISION of the REGISTER of VESTRY MEMBERS**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A MEETING OF THE SELECT VESTRY OF THIS PARISH HAS BEEN ARRANGED**

for **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026** in the Committee Room of the Monk Gibbon Hall at 7.30pm,  
 to **REVISE THE REGISTER OF VESTRY MEMBERS,**  
 BY **ADDING THE NAMES OF ANY QUALIFIED PERSONS,** and **REMOVING THE NAMES OF THOSE NO LONGER QUALIFIED,** since the last revision of the register.

Signed: *Gillian V. Wharton*

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> January 2026



**Lenten Challenge**

**Gillian is off again!**

**This year, she is walking/cross-training/cycling/rowing at least 5km every day of Lent 2026.**

*I will be using a variety of ways to move to ensure that the plantar fasciitis that I had for 18 months does not re-appear!*

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February – Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2026 inclusive!**

Lent is the season for examining ourselves and seeing how we can more fully reflect the life and love of Christ and his commandment to us to love our neighbour as ourselves. That means respecting and caring for others and for ourselves.

Therefore, again, this Lent, I am

encouraging people to take up something that gives you a focus each day and that benefits you physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually.

This year, I will be doing the Challenge for my physical, mental, emotional and spiritual wellbeing and for Pieta House and Aware.



*We provide professional counselling, support and education to those experiencing suicidal thoughts, self-harming behaviour and to those impacted by suicide and self-harm.*

<https://www.pieta.ie>



<https://www.aware.ie>

### **Come and walk 5km with me...**

on any of the Saturdays in Lent, starting at 10.00. We will do a different walk each Saturday. It's not a race, but an opportunity to walk and chat but the chat bit won't be compulsory! – you might be someone who likes to walk in silence - and that is fine too!

**28<sup>th</sup> February** – starting and finishing at St Thomas' Church

**7<sup>th</sup> March** – starting and finishing at The Irish National Sailing and Powerboat School, West Pier, Dun Laoghaire. A96 A7K7 (parking available at the Coal Harbour Parking Lot)

**14<sup>th</sup> March** – starting and finishing Car Park No. 3 (opp. 147 Strand Road

Sandymount/Merrion)

**21<sup>st</sup> March** – starting and finishing at Martello Tower 14 at Seapoint, Monkstown

**28<sup>th</sup> March** – starting and finishing at St Thomas' Church

**4<sup>th</sup> April** – starting and finishing at St Philip and St James' Church

You can make a donation by online banking to

**Boooterstown and Mount Merrion Account**

**IBAN: IE30IPBS99062932796541**

**BIC: IPBSIE2D**

## **Other Things to do in Lent...**



Join us this Lent for a four-week online Pioneer Training course as we journey through *Godsend.intro* — a practical resource for anyone who wants to explore Pioneer Ministry and how it can work locally within traditional parish settings.

Designed for individuals and small groups from parishes, *Godsend* helps connect worship on Sunday with life on Monday. It offers guidance on loving others, making disciples, and nurturing new Christian initiatives that remain rooted in and connected to the life of a traditional parish.

Hosted by the Pioneer Leadership Team, alongside Revd Dr Michael Moynagh, a nationally recognised speaker, pioneer leader, and creator of the *Godsend* material, this course will share best practice not to be copied mechanically, but to inspire prayerful, creative, and locally grounded outreach in your parish.

### Course Details:



**17** Thursdays during Lent



**Kickstarting March 5th**



**7:30–8:30pm (online via Zoom)**



**4 weekly sessions (5th, 12th, 19th, 26th of March)**

Each one-hour session will include:

- Teaching from the *Godsend*.intro material, (Rev Michael Moynagh)
  - Guided reflection
- Breakout rooms for discussion, shared learning, and practical application and questions.

Sign up for this free course via  
[www.pioneerministry.org](http://www.pioneerministry.org)

Every blessing,  
*The Pioneer Ministry Team*

*Space for Silence*  
 Thursdays over Lent  
 12.30pm tea & toast time  
 1-1.30pm facilitated contemplation / prayer  
 Hosted by: St. George & St. Thomas Church

In collaboration - The United Dioceses of Dublin & Glendalough, Praxis Bible Society Ireland, Church's Ministry of Healing, Ireland and Methodist Church in Ireland

- Guided Reflections
- Readings
- Creative Responses
- Space of Quiet

All are welcome.  
 Come as you are.

St. George & St. Thomas Church, Cathal Brugha St. DOIE654

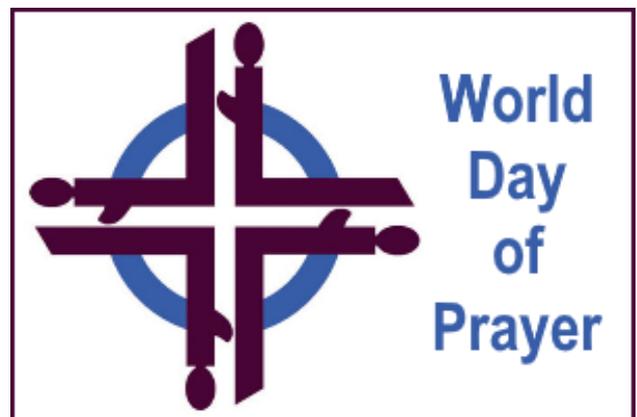
PRAXIS 2025 Prayer Movement  
 Church's Ministry of Healing Ireland  
 THE METHODIST CHURCH IN IRELAND  
 Bible Society Ireland

## St George and St Thomas Parish (Church of Ireland) Cathal Brugha Street

Lent is upon us! We're delighted to open the church for quiet and contemplative prayer times during Thursday lunchtime.

We are partnering with  
**National Bible Society of Ireland,  
 The Church's Ministry of Healing  
 Ireland  
 The United Dioceses of Dublin &  
 Glendalough  
 Praxis  
 DCM Abbey Street Church (The  
 Methodist Church in Ireland)**

Come along for tea and toast from 12.30pm and then a guided prayer time will begin at 1pm for 30 minutes with space and time on either side for self-reflection and quiet space in the heart of the city! We hope it's a chance for people to take a breath, sit in silence, and be mindful during Lent. We kick off on February 26th!



## World Day of Prayer Service

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 3pm

## ***St Philip and St James' Church***

**Theme "I will give you rest: Come"**  
*and is prepared by the Nigerian WDP  
 Committee.*



## **Daffodil Service and Daffodil Coffee Morning with Bring- and-Buy**

*Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2026*

8.30 Holy Communion - St  
 Thomas' Church

**10.30 United Family Service  
 for Daffodil Day - St Philip  
 and St James' Church**

At this Service, we will pray for those who are undergoing treatment for cancer, and for all who are involved in the healing and care of people with cancer; and for those who are undertaking research into the treatment and cure of cancer. We are going to give thanks for the recovery of those who have survived cancer, and remember those who have died from cancer.

Tea/coffee will be served after the service in the parish hall, in aid of the Irish Cancer Society, and there will also be a Bring and Buy Stall in aid of the Irish Cancer Society.

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